

StudentsStudent DisciplineDevelopment of Uniform Discipline System

It shall be the responsibility of the administration to develop and maintain a system of uniform discipline. The discipline which may be imposed includes actions which are determined to be reasonably necessary to aid the student, to further school purposes, or to prevent interference with the educational process, such as (without limitation) counseling and warning students, parent/guardian contacts and conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation, upon written consent of the parent/guardian, or in-school suspension. The discipline may also include out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term) and expulsion.

Short-Term Suspension

Students may be excluded by the principal or assistant principal from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds.
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

1. The principal or assistant principal will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral ~~or~~ **and** written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, not to exceed an additional 48 hours, following the suspension, the principal or assistant principal will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent/guardian describing:
 - a. The student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or standard;
 - b. ~~and~~ The reasons for the action taken;
 - c. **The actions taken by the school to attempt to address or alleviate the behavior prior to suspension;**
 - d. **The resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student;**
and,

- e. ~~How the school plans to address the behavior moving forward, including strategies to maximize the student's continued participation in school.~~
4. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent/guardian, to have a conference with the principal or assistant principal ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The principal or assistant principal shall determine who in addition to the parent/guardian is to attend the conference. The principal shall document their attempt to make a reasonable effort to hold a conference with the parent/guardian.
5. A student who is on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the principal or assistant principal.

Long-Term Suspension

A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five school days but less than 20 school days. A student who is on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the principal or assistant principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parent/guardian when the principal or assistant principal recommends a long-term suspension. ~~The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.~~ The notice will include a description of:

1. The student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or standard;
2. The reasons for the action being taken;
3. The actions taken by the school to attempt to address or alleviate the behavior prior to suspension;
4. The resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and,
5. How the school plans to address the behavior moving forward, including strategies to maximize the student's continued participation in school.

Expulsion

Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds, and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred:

1. Within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester;
2. Within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year; or,
3. Unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the School District at any time during the expulsion period. A student who has been expelled shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the principal or assistant principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parent/guardian when the principal or assistant principal recommends an expulsion. ~~The notice will include a description of the procedures for expulsion. The procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.~~ The notice will include a description of:

- a. The student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or standard;
- b. The reasons for the action being taken;
- c. The actions taken by the school to attempt to address or alleviate the behavior prior to expulsion;
- d. The resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and,
- e. How the school plans to address the behavior moving forward, including strategies to maximize the student's continued participation in school.

Suspensions Pending Hearing

When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the Superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal or assistant principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if the principal or assistant principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of interference with an educational function or school purpose or a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers. If the student is suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, the student may complete classwork and homework, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension. During this period, the student will not be required to attend the alternative programs for expelled students in order to complete classwork or homework.

Summer Review

Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year in accordance with law.

Alternative Education

Students who are expelled may be offered an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. A student will not be required to attend the alternative education program in order to complete classwork and homework. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent/guardian, the student, a school representative, and a representative of either a community organization with a mission of assisting young people or a representative of an agency involved with juvenile justice. The plan shall be in writing and adopted by a school administrator and presented to the student and the parent/guardian. The plan shall:

1. Specify guidelines and consequences for behaviors which have been identified as preventing the student from achieving the desired benefits from the educational opportunities provided;
2. Identify educational objectives that must be achieved in order to receive credits toward graduation;
3. Specify the financial resources and community programs available to meet both the educational and behavioral objectives identified; and,
4. Require the student to attend monthly reviews in order to assess the student's progress toward the specified goals and objectives.

Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion

Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., “stayed”) for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parent/guardian will be required to sign a discipline agreement.

Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation

Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than 19 years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to the order of the District Court, County Court, or Juvenile Court, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the principal or assistant principal shall meet with the student's probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the principal or assistant principal are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.

Returning from Expulsion

At the conclusion of an expulsion, the District will reinstate the student and accept nonduplicative, grade-appropriate credits earned by the student during the term of expulsion from any Nebraska accredited institution accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States.

Exception for Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade Students

Notwithstanding the foregoing, ~~no~~ a pre-kindergarten through second grade student ~~may shall~~ **not** be suspended ~~from school~~, unless the student:

1. Brings a deadly weapon ~~on~~ to school grounds, ~~in~~ a school vehicle, or ~~to~~ a school activity; or,
2. **Engages in violent behavior capable of causing physical harm to another student or school employee.**

~~Instead, In all other circumstances,~~ the principal or principal’s designee ~~may shall~~ implement appropriate alternative disciplinary measures on a case-by-case basis. ~~if a pre-kindergarten through second grade student engages in misconduct that would otherwise result in a short-term suspension. If a pre-kindergarten through second grade student~~ **A student who** brings a deadly weapon ~~on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or to a school activity, then the student may be suspended or may be~~ expelled in accordance with this policy’s disciplinary measures.

Religious Freedom

The District will not substantially burden a student's right to religious exercise unless the student's religious exercise is disruptive to the school environment, not permitted by staff, may pose a safety risk, or would otherwise interfere with the school day.

Emergency Exclusion

A student may be excluded from school, with authorization from the Superintendent, in the following circumstances:

1. If the student has a dangerous communicable disease transmissible through normal school contacts and poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of the school community;
2. If the student's conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself, herself, or others, or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education;
3. Any emergency exclusion shall be based upon a clear factual situation warranting it and shall last no longer than is necessary to avoid the dangers described above; and/or,
4. If the emergency exclusion will be for five school days or less, the procedures for a short-term suspension shall be followed. If the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee determines that an emergency exclusion shall extend beyond five days, a hearing is to be held and a final determination made within 10 school days after the initial date of exclusion. Such procedures shall substantially comply with the procedures set forth in this policy for a long-term suspension or expulsion, and be modified only to the extent necessary to accomplish the hearing and determination within this shorter time period.

Other Forms of Student Discipline

Administrative and teaching personnel may also take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures. A failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school.

Student Conduct Expectations

Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose, or interfere with the health, safety, wellbeing, or rights of other students, staff, or visitors.

Grounds for Short-Term Suspension

1. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities, or tardiness to school, assigned classes, or assigned activities;
2. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory

toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, disability, national origin, or religion;

3. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority; or,
4. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for riding school buses or vehicles.

Grounds for Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment

The following conduct shall constitute grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act when such activity occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee, or by his/her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event:

1. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes;
2. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property;
3. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
4. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
5. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon;
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 53-103.02 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor;
7. Public indecency as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-806, except that this subdivision shall apply only to students at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age;
8. Engaging in bullying as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,137. This includes “deep fakes” or other computer-generated images of other students or staff intended to bully, harass, intimidate, or humiliate another student or staff member;
9. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event. For purposes of this subdivision, sexual assault means sexual assault in the first degree as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-319, sexual assault in the second degree as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-319.01, as such sections now provide or may hereafter from time to time be amended;

10. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or,
11. A repeated violation of any rules and standards validly established pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-262, if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes, including (but not limited to) a violation of the District's dress code and electronic communication device rules.

Mandatory reassignment shall be subject to the same procedural requirements and protections as long-term suspension and expulsion.

Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline

The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his/her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

Student Appearance

Students are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is reasonably forecasted to interfere with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Specific expectations should be re-evaluated each year and be consistent with Parent-Student Handbooks.

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. A student who is a member of an indigenous tribe of the United States or another country may wear tribal regalia at any location where the student is authorized to be on such school grounds or at any school function, as long as the tribal regalia does not interfere with the educational process and does not endanger another person, as determined by the administration. Further, students will also be permitted to wear attire, including religious attire, natural and protective hairstyles, adornments, or other characteristics associated with race, national origin, or religion, as long as the attire does not interfere with the educational process and does not endanger another person, as determined by the administration.

No student shall be disproportionately affected by a dress code or grooming policy enforcement because of the student's gender, race, color, religion, disability, or national origin.

No school staff shall permanently or temporarily alter or cut a student's hair. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the principal or Superintendent. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school's guidelines, the student should contact the principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the principal's office.

A student dress code violation will be treated as a minor rule violation and may not require the student to miss substantial classroom time, instructional time, or school activities. However, a repeated violation of school rules may subject the student to further discipline, as outlined in this policy.

Coaches, sponsors, or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups, or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program.

Academic Integrity

1. Policy Statement - Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student's level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values. Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.
2. Definitions - The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:
 - a. "Cheating" means intentionally misrepresenting the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
 - i. Tests - Includes tests, quizzes, and other examinations or academic performances:
 - ii. Advance Information - Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
 - iii. Use of Unauthorized Materials - Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formula in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices, or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for "open book" tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.
 - iv. Use of Other Student Answers - Copying or looking at another student's answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student's paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student's answers on the test paper.

1. Use of Other Student to Take Test - Having another person take one's place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
 2. Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test - Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.
- v. Papers - Includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work.
1. Use of Another's Paper - Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
 2. Re-use of One's Own Papers - Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.
 3. Assistance from Others - Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent/guardian or sibling, and the essay is substantially rewritten by the student's parent/guardian or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.
 4. Failure to Contribute to Group Projects - Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.
 5. Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper - Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.
- vi. Alteration of Assigned Grades - Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.
- b. Plagiarism means to take and present as one's own material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
- i. Failure to Credit Sources - Copying work (words, sentences, paragraphs, illustrations, or models) directly from the work of another without proper

- credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
- ii. Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own - Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.
 - iii. "Contributing to academic integrity violations" means to participate in or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes, but is not limited to, allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.
- c. Sanctions - The following sanctions will occur when a student engages in cheating, plagiarism, or contributing to an academic integrity offense: Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The principal or assistant principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

Electronic Devices

1. Philosophy and Purpose - The District strongly discourages students from bringing personal electronic devices to school. Personal electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of personal electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.
2. Definitions
 - a. "Electronic devices" include, but are not limited to, cell phones, iPods, tablets, Chromebooks, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, laptop computers, smart watches, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.
 - b. "Sexting" means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video, or other medium that:
 - i. Displays any sexually explicit conduct as defined by the Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02;
 - ii. Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph, or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing

- such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene, or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; and/or,
- iii. Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation, or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.

3. Violations

- a. Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices - Students shall not use electronic devices for:
 - i. Activities which disrupt the educational environment;
 - ii. Illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations;
 - iii. Unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests;
 - iv. Immoral or pornographic activities;
 - v. Activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment;
 - vi. Recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) or otherwise transmitting images and/or sounds of another person or persons without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public;
 - vii. "Sexting;" or,
 - viii. Activities which invade the privacy of others.

Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.

- b. Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices - Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time.
- c. Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices - Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in "sexting" or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.
- d. Reporting to Law Enforcement - Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.
- e. Responsibility for Electronic Devices - The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, student and parent/guardian authorizes the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for

the security and safekeeping of students' electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.

Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA)

Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling, or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA: Consequences consistent with each school's Parent-Student Handbook.

If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.

Specific Rule Items

Specific rules will be developed at the school and the District level and reviewed each year. These expectations will be included in each school's Parent-Student Handbook.

Law Violations

Any act of a student which is a basis for expulsion and which the principal or assistant principal knows or suspects is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code shall be reported to law enforcement as soon as possible. Conduct to be reported for law enforcement referral includes conduct that may constitute a felony, conduct which may constitute a threat to the safety or well-being of students or others in school programs and activities, and conduct that the legal system is better equipped to address than school officials. Conduct that does not need to be reported for law enforcement referral includes typical adolescent behavior that can be addressed by school administrators without the involvement of law enforcement. In making the decision of whether to report, consideration should be given to the student's maturity, mental capacity, and behavioral disorders, where applicable. When appropriate, it shall be the responsibility of the referring administrator to contact the student's parent/guardian of the fact that the referral to legal authorities has been or will be made.

The foregoing reporting standards shall be reviewed annually by the School Board on or before August 1 of each year, be annually reviewed in collaboration with the County Attorney each year, be distributed to each student and his/her parent/guardian at the beginning of each school year, or at the time of enrollment if during the school year, and shall be posted in conspicuous places in each school during the school year.

When a principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the principal or other school official shall take immediate steps to notify the parent/guardian or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, in which case the principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parent/guardian.

Legal Reference: [Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 28-319 to 28-320](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-401](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-806](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 53,103.23](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-254 to 79-296](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-262](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,137](#)
[18 U.S.C. 921](#)
[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,160](#)

Date of Adoption: August 9, 2021
Date of Revision: ~~June 9, 2025~~ July 13, 2026